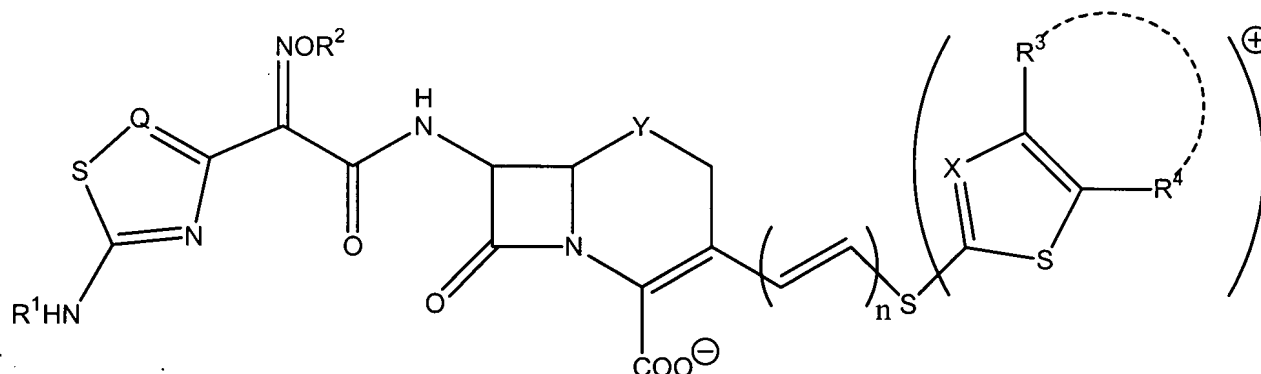


Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Claims

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A compound of the formula:



wherein R¹ is a phosphono **group**, **dialkoxy-phosphoryl, O-alkyl-phosphono, diaminophosphoryl, (amino)(hydroxy)phosphoryl, (alkoxy)(morpholino)phosphoryl or dihalophosphoryl**];

R² is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl group or a C_{3,5} cycloalkyl group;

each of Q and X is a nitrogen atom or CH;

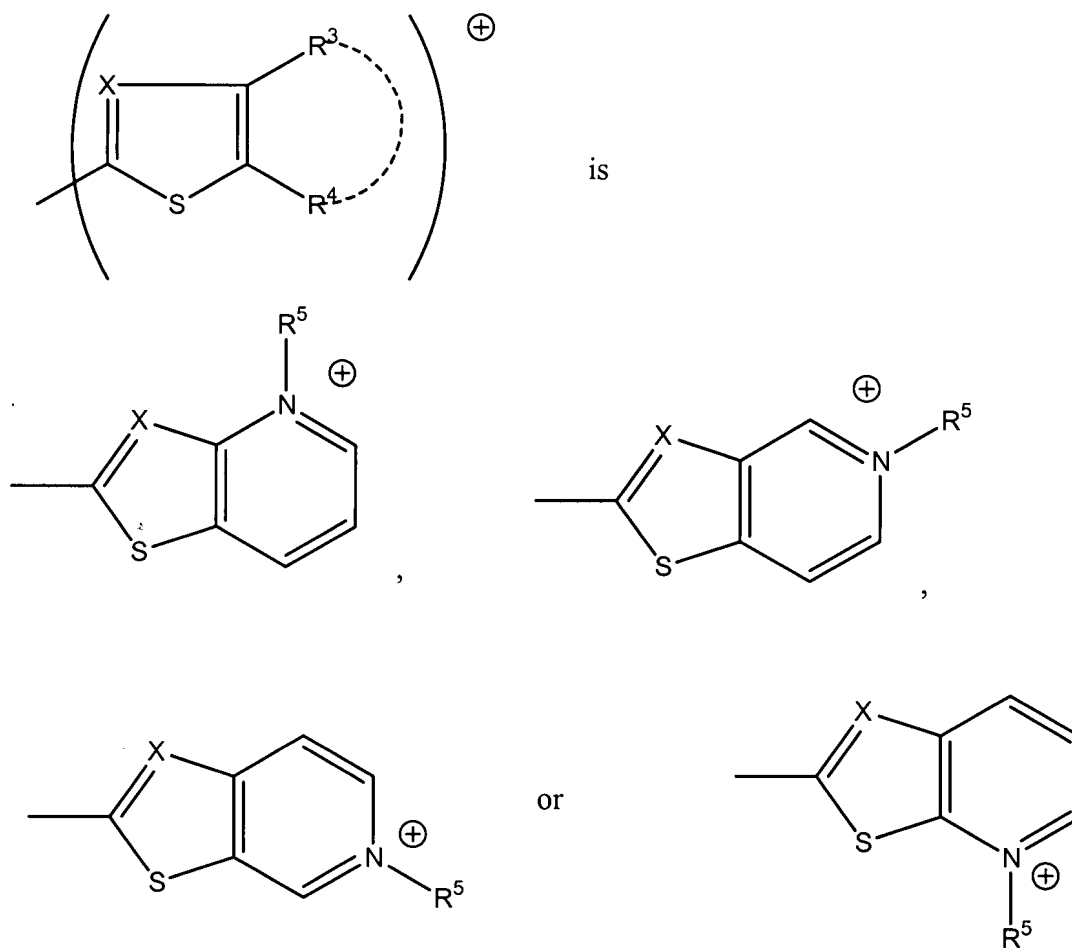
Y is S;

n is 0 or 1;

one of R³ and R⁴ is a pyridinium group which may be substituted and the other is a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group which may be substituted, or R³ and R⁴ taken together may form a quaternized nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be substituted,

wherein when R³ and R⁴ are taken together, the group of the formula

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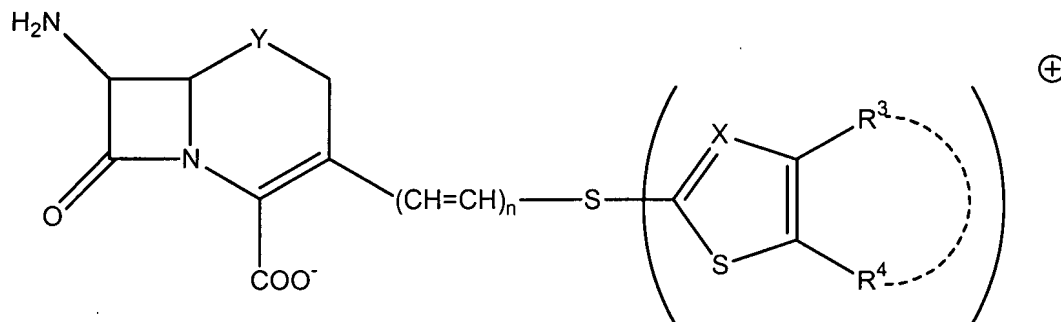


wherein R^5 is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group;
or salt [or ester] thereof.

12. (THRICE AMENDED) 7 β -[2(Z)-ethoxyimino-2-(5-phosphonoamino-1,2,4-thiadiazole-3-yl)acetamido]-3-[4-(1-methyl-4-pyridinio)-2-thiazolylthio]-3-cephem-4-carboxylate[, **its ester**] or its salt.
13. (TWICE AMENDED) A compound as claimed in claim 1, which is 7 β - [2(Z)-fluoromethoxyimino-2-(5-phophonoamino-1,2,4-thiadiazole-3-yl)acetamido]-3-[4-(1-methyl-4-pyridinio)-2-thiazolylthio]-3-cephem-4-carboxylate[, **its ester**] or its salt.

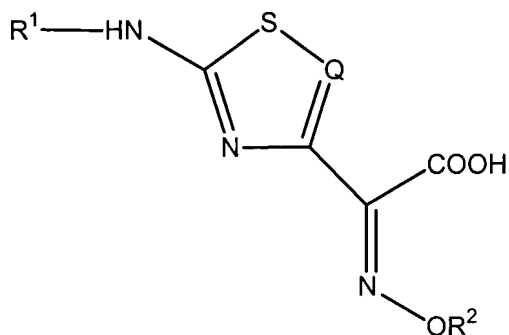
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14. (AMENDED) A method for producing a compound as claimed in claim 1, which comprises reacting a compound of the formula:



or its salt;

wherein each symbol has the meaning given **in claim 1**; [above, its ester or its salt,] with a compound of the formula:



its salt or its reactive derivative;

wherein each symbol has the meaning given [above, its salt or its reactive derivative, if necessary,] **in claim 1**

[followed by converting R¹ to a phosphono group].

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